

**THE LATE REV. JOHN B. MOWAT, D.D.**

JUBILEE

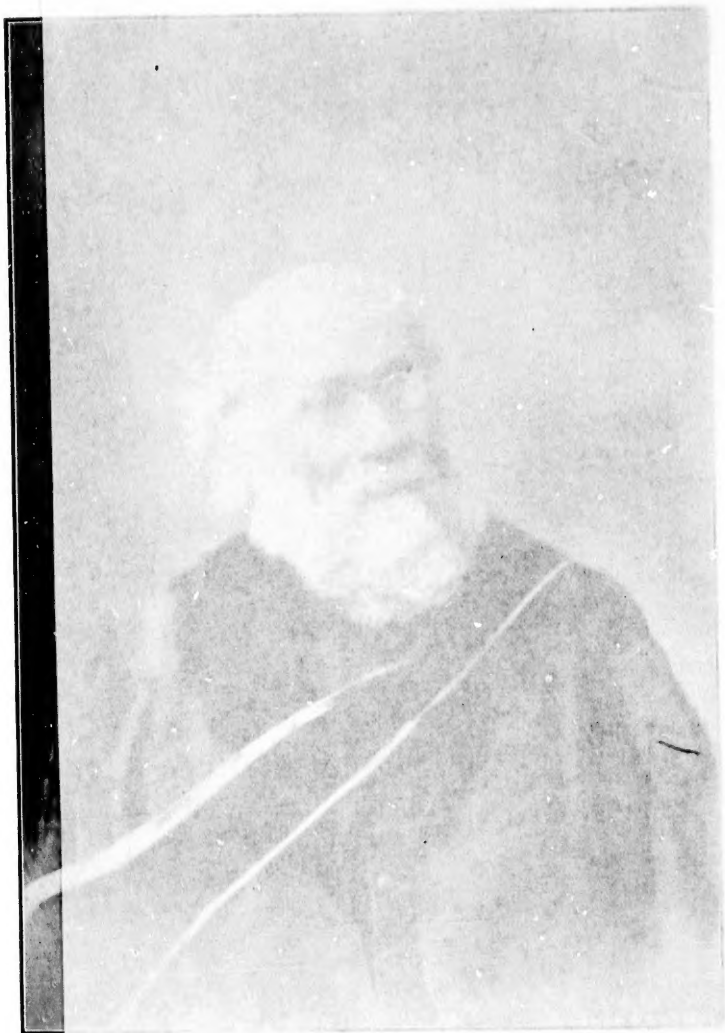
REV. DR. MOWAT'S ORDINATION

EPISCOPAL MINISTRY

THE REV. DR. MOWAT'S ORDINATION  
TO THE EPISCOPAL MINISTRY  
WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY  
MAY 19TH AT 10 O'CLOCK  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY  
ST. JAMES STREET, LONDON, E.C. 4.

181 MAY, 1900.

THE SECRETARY, GENERAL SYNOD OF THE  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ENGLAND



THE LATE REV. JOHN B. MOWAT, D.D.

**JUBILEE**  
**OF**  
**REV. DR. MOWAT'S ORDINATION**  
**TO THE**  
**PRESBYTERIAN MINISTRY**

THE PARTICULARS HEREIN CONTAINED BEING COL-  
LECTED AND PRINTED FOR THE GRATIFICATION  
OF DR. MOWAT'S FAMILY AND RELATIVES  
BY HIS BROTHER, SIR OLIVER MOWAT.

*PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY*

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1st MAY, 1900.

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1900.



**JUBILEE**  
**OF**  
**Rev. Dr. Mowat's Ordination**  
**TO THE**  
**CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.**

*(From the Toronto Globe.)*

KINGSTON, May 1.—A most interesting feature of the exercises in connection with the Queen's Convocation was the celebration to-day of the fiftieth anniversary of the ministerial work of Rev. John B. Mowat, D.D., Professor of Hebrew in the Faculty of Theology at Queen's. Prof. Mowat, who is a hearty old man, though well advanced in his seventies, fifty years ago to-morrow, and for forty-two years, has held his present position, to the satisfaction of the College and the great advantage of those who attended his classes. Prof. Mowat is a brother of Sir Oliver Mowat, and in his manner of speech is not unlike the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. The honor of which he was the recipient was tendered by the Presbytery of Kingston, and among the many members present were not a few whose hair has silvered in the service of the church alongside of Dr. Mowat.

The celebration of Dr. Mowat's jubilee took place in one of the College class-rooms at two o'clock. Rev. M. W. Maclean, of Belleville, Moderator of the Presbytery, presided. The meeting opened with devotional exercises, which included the singing of the good old hymn, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past;" the Scripture lesson, and prayer by Rev. Dr. Grant.

The Moderator, in a short address, paid a high tribute to the man they were present to honor. It fell to the lot of few men, Mr. Maclean said, to have such a long and eminently useful career as Prof. Mowat had been privileged to have. He had reason, from his relatives living in the Niagara district, to know something of Prof. Mowat's work as a pastor at St. Andrew's, Niagara. From them he had learned of his faithfulness to his ministerial duties, his holding forth the gospel of life, with his own personality behind it, and his intense interest in the well-being of his flock; which made him remembered as pastor and personal friend. Therefore, when he came to Queen's as a student, he already felt Dr. Mowat to be an old and tried friend. "My impression of him as a professor," Mr. Maclean went on, "if I may be allowed to say so, was not only that he was apt to teach, but that he was also an accurate scholar, conscientious and earnest in his work, but also that he had a deep

interest in his students, every one of whom respected him as a teacher and loved him as a man. I am sure I speak the thought of every clergyman who has passed through his class, when I say that if they did not benefit largely by his lectures it was their own fault. He served faithfully and well during the trying times of the early history of Queen's, loyal to her interests, from the small beginnings that it had up to this present hour, when this University has become a powerful factor in the land. Many ministers, at home and abroad, are now doing important work in and for the Church, who owe much of their success under Providence to his valued teaching. Long after he has vacated his chair, long after he begins to get his well-earned rest in this life, long after he has gone home, his influence will be felt in the work done by those he met in his classes." After speaking of Prof. Mowat's kindly willingness to help a brother in filling his appointment, Mr. Maclean concluded:—"Not only will all the members of the Presbytery, but I am sure of the Church at large, unite in the hope that he will long be spared among us to see the cause go on prospering and to prosper; and at last, when the Master calls to higher service, that he may have it said:—'Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'"



Rev. Dr. Wardrobe, of Guelph, recalled the fact that beside Dr. Mowat and himself there were only two who were present at the opening of Queen's College. Prof. Mowat was then a mere junior, and was not prepared for any Divinity class for two or three years after that. But, although a mere junior, he was for his years mature in scholarship. In all his subsequent years, it had given him great pleasure to observe Dr. Mowat's onward course both as a pastor and as a professor.

Rev. Mr. Gracie, of Gananoque, said, that from a long and intimate acquaintance with Dr. Mowat, he could heartily endorse what had been said of him. As a pastor laboring in this Presbytery he had had occasion to admire the readiness with which Prof. Mowat, sometimes at his own personal inconvenience, accepted invitations to preach for and help out pastors in difficulties. No one had preached more acceptably in his Church than Prof. Mowat. His able exposition, his clear views of divine truth, his full sympathy with the subject, his manifest earnestness and devotion, together with his success as a professor, had made him one of the most useful men in the Church.

Rev. Dr. Milligan, of Toronto, who entered the room at this moment, on being called upon, spoke of Prof. Mowat's humble Christian spirit. He was

a man who went about doing good. He was exceedingly glad to be present to testify to the good influence Dr. Mowat had on him as a student at Queen's and to the help he had given his fellow-men.

ADDRESS OF PRESBYTERY TO DR. MOWAT.

Rev. W. T. Wilkins, of Trenton, the Clerk of the Presbytery, read a handsomely illuminated address, which was in the following terms :—

"Rev. Prof. Mowat, M.A., D.D., Professor of Oriental Literature and Church History, etc., in Queen's College: For several years your honored name has occupied a foremost place upon our roll, and now your co-presbyters, many of whom have sat at your feet as students, on this, the eve of the fiftieth anniversary of your ordination to the holy ministry, meet by special appointment in your own class-room to congratulate you upon the event, and join with you in praising God. Half a century of seed-sowing in the soil of a new nation is watering history. Especially do we recognize the pleasing fact that in your case the pastor has not been permitted to merge or be lost in the professor. Resigning the charge of one of our historic churches, St. Andrew's, Niagara, early in your ministry, in order that you might the more effectively serve the Church in the new sphere to

which you have been called by training candidates for its ministry in Oriental literature, Church history, and so forth, you have nevertheless to this day remained pre-eminently a preacher of the Word. That you may yet be spared many years to serve the Master here, ere he calls you to enter upon the eternal rest, and to receive the reward promised to those faithful unto death, is the hearty and unanimous prayer of your former students and all your brethren in the Presbytery of Kingston of the Presbyterian Church in Canada."

DR. MOWAT'S REPLY.

I appreciate very highly the kindness of the Presbytery in celebrating the jubilee of my ordination. I do think, however, that if any credit is due for my having lived fifty years since my ordination, it belongs chiefly to my parents for having transmitted to me a healthy constitution and given to me other advantages which but for them I would not have had. A little credit, perhaps, is also due to myself, for it is within a few months of sixty years since I became a teetotaler; and the statistics of some life assurance companies show that the average life of teetotalers exceeds that of others. My pledge forbade me to drink any intoxicating liquor as a beverage. This pledge which I took in the ardour of youth, I have strictly kept to this day. In the last

two or three years, by medical advice, I have occasionally taken alcoholic drink, in very small quantities, as a tonic; and physicians say that as a tonic it is more beneficial to teetotalers than to those who are accustomed to use it as a beverage. I have little doubt that my total abstinence has benefited my health and prolonged my life.

I remember well my ordination at Niagara. All who took part in it are deceased. Mr. John Malcolm Smith of Galt, to whose lot it fell to address me on that occasion, was soon afterwards appointed to the chair in Queen's in which I succeeded him on his death in 1857. Before my settlement in Niagara I was assistant to Dr. Machar in Kingston and the surrounding country for a year and nine months; and greatly did I benefit by the advice and example of that good man. More than one plan of usefulness which I adopted in Niagara I learned from him—for instance, the regular and systematic pastoral visitation of families. He intimated these visits at the close of each Sabbath morning service, and as the form of the intimation was always exactly the same I can repeat it word for word. It was this: "On Tuesday next, between the hours of five and eight o'clock, I purpose, God willing, to visit pastorally and catechise in the families of"—and then followed the names of the families. I did not intimate my visits in the same mode. I preferred

to do it through the elders, each elder having his district. But my visits were of the same kind as Dr. Machar's, and like his were made at hours when I could meet with the men, and not only with the women and children. His aim was to visit his families once a year, but he told me he was seldom able to accomplish this fully. My congregation was scarcely a third as large as his, and I managed to visit the families always twice and generally thrice a year. I found that in the Presbytery to which Niagara belonged, the ministers visited the sick and made friendly visits to families, and both of these kinds of visits are useful; but very few of my co-presbyters made pastoral visits to families with regularity, and probably my visits would have been equally defective but for Dr. Machar's example.

Another way in which he was of service to me was in the example he set of careful preparation for the pulpit. He never preached an ill-prepared sermon. For a man to preach a sermon on which little labour had been expended he considered not a fault merely but a sin.

Another stimulus which led me to prepare as carefully as I was able for the pulpit was, that one of my predecessors, Dr. McGill, was one of the very best preachers of his day. He left Niagara to become minister of St. Paul's, Montreal, and when I was in Niagara his excellence as a preacher as well as

a man was well remembered and was often spoken of. It was also a great advantage to me that there were some members of the congregation who were clever and highly educated. One of them was as clever a man as I ever met. He was a brother of Dr. Peter Colin Campbell, who was one of the early Professors of Queen's and was afterwards Principal of Aberdeen University. One would be ashamed to preach to such men sermons containing ill-digested thoughts or composed in a slipshod style.

I enjoyed my work in dear old Niagara exceedingly. There was plenty to do but not so much as to leave insufficient time for study. The people were most kind and attentive. The deputation from the Presbytery appointed to visit the congregations within its bounds reported more favourably of Niagara than of any other of its charges. There was only one rich man among them, but according to their ability they were more liberal in their contributions to the schemes of the church than most of the congregations of that day. I was accustomed to regard Niagara as an ideal charge. I did not know of any pastoral charge for which I would have exchanged it. I declined a call to St. Andrew's, Kingston, to be assistant and successor to Dr. Machar, and refused to sanction the getting up of a call to St. Andrew's (now St. Paul's), Hamilton. A Professorship in Queen's could alone have drawn

me away. I considered such a position more important and useful than a pastorate, and I expected to have in it special opportunities for study—which of all employments I loved best.

I ought to be a grateful man. My work has been of three kinds; first as assistant in St. Andrew's, K'ngston, and missionary in the neighbourhood; then as minister of Niagara; and now as professor; and in each case the work has been exactly suited to me at the time. Certainly the lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; and the most pleasant of all, at least until lately, is that which I now occupy. My position in Queen's has had its drawbacks and grievances, but they have been counterbalanced and exceeded by its privileges and advantages. My first two positions were a good preparation for my third. It is most desirable for a Theological Professor to have been previously in a pastoral charge, as all the Theological Professors of Queen's have been. If he is a mere scholar, however erudite, and has not had the cure of souls, and if after he becomes a Professor he does not keep himself in touch with religious work, there is danger that in teaching his classes he will aim only at giving them a speculative knowledge of his subject, and will seek only their intellectual culture, without concerning himself about their spiritual improvement any more than if he was

teaching Sanscrit or mathematics. If under his teaching they become well versed in Theological Science, or Biblical Criticism, or Church History, or the Semitic languages, he is apt to be satisfied; he will make little or no effort to elevate the tone of their piety, or to increase their interest in the spiritual welfare of their fellow-men. This of course would be a dreadful mistake. Neander used to say, "Pectus est quod facit theologum;" and Luther's motto was equally true, "Bene orasse est bene studuisse."

I thank the Presbytery most sincerely for the kind Address, so beautifully illuminated, that has been read, and the brethren who have spoken, for their kind words.

*(From the Westminster.)*

## JUBILEE OF REV DR. MOWAT'S ORDINATION.

BY ALEPH.

Few men are privileged to render so long and unbroken a service to their church and country as the venerable Dr. Mowat, of Queen's University, and none could have offered it with more entire consecration and ungrudging faithfulness. Most fittingly, therefore, did his own Presbytery resolve to hold a special meeting, and in his own classroom in the college, last Monday, to present him



with a complimentary address on the occasion of his ministerial jubilee.

Dr. Mowat is a Kingstonian by birth, and of Scottish parentage. His father, who was a successful and influential business man, came from Caithness, a county which, some of the natives think, gives to the world its most gifted men. Making due allowance for this natural and pardonable partiality, it remains true enough that Caithness has given to the Empire many excellent and prosperous citizens in various walks of life. The subject of this sketch entered Queen's University when quite a young man, graduating as B.A. in 1845, and M.A. in 1847. On completing his course at Queen's he proceeded to Edinburgh, at whose famous University he spent two additional sessions. Returning to Canada he became assistant for two years to the Rev. Dr. Machar, of St. Andrew's Church, Kingston. About the same time he was called to the pastorate of St. Andrew's Church, Niagara; and so anxious were the congregation to secure his services that they willingly waited for him, although he had not bound himself to go to them even after a lengthened period of waiting; but their patience was rewarded. May 1, 1850, he was ordained pastor of that congregation; and only words of affection and gratitude have ever been spoken of his ministry. "He loved his people and his people loved and re-

vered their pastor." A reminiscence of his devoted care, related at the centennial of his old congregation, 1894, was to the effect that a visiting committee of the Presbytery of Hamilton had given St. Andrew's the most favorable report of all the churches in the Presbytery.

Seven years of this faithful ministry was a priceless boon to the community, and when, in 1857, he accepted the chair of Oriental Languages, Biblical Criticism and Church History in Queen's, "the people saw with great grief the departure of their beloved pastor." Abundant parish cares and pulpit preparation were not permitted in his case, as often sadly happens in others, to interfere with the systematic prosecution of the studies begun in college days. So that when his *alma mater* needed a proficient scholar to fill one of her most important departments, she knew where to find him. And the position to which he was then elected he has continued to adorn from that day to this, not only "by his professional ability and accurate scholarship, but also by the manifold graces of his Christian character."

In 1883 the work of the chair, which had become too onerous for any one man, was divided, Professor Mowat retaining Hebrew, Chaldee and Old Testament Exegesis. Apologetics and New Testament Criticism were constituted a separate chair, to which

Rev. Donald Ross, M.A., B.D., was appointed professor ; and Church History was made a lectureship, which has been filled sometimes by members of the staff, and sometimes by outsiders. In 1885 Professor Mowat received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of Glasgow, *honoris causa*—a distinction from so eminent a seat of learning gratifying to himself and most pleasing to his own University and to his students and friends. A year ago the strain of labors, which gathering years did not make any lighter, was relieved by the appointment of Dr. Jordan as colleague, and last session the duties of the chair were divided between them.

Dr. Mowat's teaching is marked by thoroughness and accuracy. Vague generalizations, so congenial to the lazy or careless mind, are not acceptable in any work which the student offers. Where certainty and positiveness are attainable they must be sought after. The writer well remembers the Professor's insistence on this point. Accuracy, would be an immensely valuable working force, and a great saving of time in all the after years. Most true ! And if the Hebrew class-room cannot be said to be a place of consuming enthusiasms anywhere, of Dr. Mowat's class-room it must be said that it has ever been a place where the discipline of industry and conscientiousness was more than

its own reward. Enthusiasm is a great thing, yet easily counterfeited and spent, but honest, accurate work and a good conscience abide forever, and great is the world's need of them to-day.

While in the active ministry Dr. Mowat did not neglect wide and systematic reading and study ; since his election to academic duties, which have been neither light nor few, he has not relinquished his old active interest in preaching and other forms of Christian work. His valuable services are freely given whenever needed without any reference to denominational lines and boundaries, and his catholic spirit, and the respect universally accorded to his Christian character, make him one of the uniting forces in the community. He is one of the most scriptural and evangelical of preachers. The thought is vigorous and clearly reasoned and expressed, rising at times to real eloquence ; the application, never omitted, is eminently practical, and focussed on heart and conscience ; and pervading the whole service—devotion and sermon from the opening to the close—is the unmistakable flavor called “unction.”

Though loyally attached to his church, Dr. Mowat is not an ecclesiastic, and seldom takes an active or prominent part in church courts. At the same time, when occasion requires that he should speak, few excel him in clearness of statement and sound,

practical judgment. Many will remember a speech he made in a certain church case before the Assembly of 1876. That he should have spoken at all surprised some, and that he should, strictly within the amenities of debate, have hit so hard, surprised others. Opinion about the speech was divided. Some—of those hit—pronounced it injudicious. Others—of whom the writer was one—approved every word. Its historic standpoint, its candor, and its truthfulness were unassailable, and twenty-four years have more than amply vindicated the spirit and sagacity of the speech. Dr. Mowat has followed with keen and sympathetic interest the course of thought for the past half-century. When matters of controversy require to be dealt with in the class, he impartially states rival opinions and theories, and gives lucidly the reasons for his own preference. His attitude towards the great biological and critical questions of our time is that of moderate conservatism. And this brief sketch should not be closed without mention of the warmth of his personal friendship, his abiding interest in his students after they pass out into the world, and the charm of the hospitality so generously dispensed by himself and his accomplished wife.

**The Following are Some of the Letters sent to  
Dr. Mowat with Reference to  
the Jubilee.**

*(From Rev. Dr. Caven, President of Knox College, Toronto.)*

Knox College,

TORONTO, 2nd May, 1900.

DEAR DR. MOWAT,

Allow me to unite with your many friends in sincere congratulations on your having attained your ministerial Jubilee. With all these I desire to give thanks to Him who has permitted you for so lengthened a period to serve in His Church and to do so much for the advancement of his Kingdom.

I am much interested in reading in our papers this morning, the account of the very pleasing proceedings conducted by the Presbytery at Kingston yesterday. Let me especially express my gratification at the testimony so truthfully borne by the brethren to the most valuable services which you have rendered to the Presbyterian Church and to the cause of Christ in your office as Professor of Theology.

Long may you yet be spared to continue labours which you love and which have been so fruitful in blessing.

With very kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

WM. CAVEN.

*(From Rev. Dr. McCurdy, Professor of Oriental Literature,  
Provincial University, Toronto.)*

University College,  
Oriental Department,  
TORONTO, May 4th, 1900.

MY DEAR PROF. MOWAT,

I read with great interest the account in the daily papers of the late proceedings in connection with your Jubilee, and beg leave to offer my warm congratulations along with those of a multitude of friends and admirers throughout the world. Your name was familiar to me long before I had any idea of pursuing the same line of studies as that which you have made so thoroughly your own, and my regard for you personally has continued to increase since I came into closer relations with your students and have been able to appreciate the extent of your work and your influence. I trust that you may be spared yet many years to see the surer establishment among men of that Word of Life to whose elucidation you have devoted your time and talents.

Yours faithfully,

J. FREDERICK MCCURDY.

*(From Rev. William Snodgrass, D.D., Kilmalcolm, Scotland,  
sometime Principal of Queen's College.)*

June 8th, 1900.

MY DEAR PROFESSOR,

A Kingston paper has come to me showing that some grateful recognition has been made of valuable services rendered by you to Church and College since your ordination to the ministry fifty years ago.

To-morrow's mail must carry this my note of fervent anticipation in the interest inseparable from the occasion. One may hesitate to felicitate a friend on reaching his jubilee of working years, though only because it is a marking of the larger part of a lifetime gone, but it is a potent reason for heartiest congratulation that one's friend has been spared to labour thus long in the noblest of occupations for the best of Masters. I, therefore, wish you much joy of the favour which has brought you to the stage you have reached. May the good Lord who has led you so far, helped you so much, and blest your endeavours to so many, henceforth vouchsafe unto you an abiding sense of his sustaining and comforting presence. \* \* \*

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

W. SNODGRASS.



**The following are some of the letters received from  
ex-Students of Dr. Mowat.**

*(From Rev. Joseph Gandier, Minister of Presbyterian Church,  
Newburgh, Ont.)*

NEWBURGH, Ont., Apr. 30th, 1900.

REV. PROFESSOR MOWAT, D.D.,  
Kingston, Ont.

MY DEAR PROFESSOR :

I have been looking forward with much pleasure hoping to take part in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of your ordination ; but I have been suffering from an attack of la grippe and feel that I cannot be present with you to-morrow. I regret this very much ; and I write to assure you that I have never forgotten your kindness and faithfulness to me, as one of my teachers, whose thoroughness and good counsel and earnest prayers have been a great help to me in my own life and in the work of the ministry. I thank the Lord for granting you health to remain so long in the grand work of the ministry of Jesus Christ.

You know but little of the good you have done ; but the day is coming when the Master will show it to you. Then we shall meet and rejoice together and be forever with the Lord.

Your thankful pupil,

J. GANDIER.

*(From Rev. D. McG. Gandier, Minister of Presbyterian Church,  
Rossland, British Columbia.)*

THE MANSE, ROSSLAND, B.C.,  
25th April, 1900.

REV. PROFESSOR MOWAT, D.D.,  
Queen's University,  
Kingston, Ontario.

DEAR PROFESSOR MOWAT :

Having seen in the paper that the first of next month is the 50th anniversary of your ordination, which is to be marked by a special meeting of the Presbytery in dear old Queen's, I wish to send my sincere good wishes and congratulations to you. Among the priceless gifts of a kind Father there are two which in my life stand out prominently, and these are : firstly, a Christian home where parents and children were one in the love and service of Christ, and where, if any distinctions are to be made, was a mother of rare wisdom and grace ; secondly, my experience at Queen's, whence came habits of thought and inspirations to noble manhood which are still working and shall continue to do so as long as life lasts. I owe much to several professors and not least to yourself. Your deep reverence for things sacred, your loyalty to, I might say jealousy for, the truth, and your hatred of things

mean or whatever approached the sinful, have left an indelible impress on all your students. To me they shall ever remain as incentives to all that is best ; for, given these two things, true reverence and a tender conscience, and no one can go far astray. I pray that you may be spared to many more years of service enriched by the mellowing experience of a ripened character, and extend to you heartiest congratulations on your long term of honored ministry.

With kind regards to Mrs. Mowat and family, and thanking you for many manifestations of kindness which I have received in past years, I am,

Your old student,

D. McG. GANDIER.

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*(From the Rev. Mr. McPherson, Minister of St. Paul's Church,  
Hamilton.)*

157 Hughson St. South,

HAMILTON, May 8th, 1900.

MY DEAR DR. MOWAT:

Allow me to congratulate you most heartily on having celebrated your Jubilee so successfully and so joyously. By remembrance of my college days I am constrained to write you, for your influence then felt is still upon me. You constantly made me feel that one's moral nature was pre-eminent in life's field of activity. With a loving hand you ever placed the accent upon conduct. Perhaps the present is a fitting time to state to you that your personal influence played no little part in shaping my life.

Allow me then, my dear Professor, to congratulate you and at the same time to thank you for your many kindnesses to me, all of which have been formative forces in my life. Kind regards to Mrs. Mowat in which Mrs. McPherson joins with me.

Your old student,

NEIL MCPHERSON.

*(From Rev. Dr. Ross, Professor of Apologetics and New Testament Criticism in Queen's University.)*

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,  
KINGSTON, CANADA.

May 11th, 1900.

DEAR DR. MOWAT :

At the commemoration of your Jubilee I intended to say a few words, but as the Moderator of the Presbytery had traversed the line of thought which I had proposed following, I resolved to remain silent rather than to express in somewhat different form what had been already said.

I felt that you were to be congratulated, because the opportunity is granted to only a very few of celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of their ordination to the work of the Christian ministry, while they are still actively engaged in discharging its duties. It must be a source of unbounded satisfaction to be able to look back and feel that that work has been earnestly and conscientiously done. I am sure that no one could have a more profound conviction of the sacredness of toil, and the honour of serving the Church, whether in the pulpit or in the Professor's Chair, and no one could be more painstaking and unsparing of self in preparing for the efficient fulfilment of such service. I was the oldest of your students present on the occasion, for you came

to the University as Professor the same year in which I entered it as an undergraduate. I can testify to the care and thoroughness with which you carried on the work of the various classes which it was my privilege to attend. I have always reckoned myself your debtor for your earnest insistence upon accurate and thorough preparation of the studies and exercises which you prescribed. The lesson so firmly enforced has had an abiding influence on me. It was a most valuable discipline, and for this it was in my heart to thank you. To forty-three successive classes of students you have set an example of fidelity to duty, and of a consistent and devoted Christian life which could not but excite their admiration and gratitude, and be an unfailing source of inspiration to them to the end of their days. Your life of unwearied service has been a benediction to many, and only the day will reveal its extent, because it has been unostentatiously rendered. I trust that you may be long spared to exercise your gifts, and that, while the noisy years are rushing into the being of the eternal silence, your path may be as the shining light, and strewn with blessings which shall fill you with a joy that is unspeakable.

Believe me to be

Yours truly,

D. Ross.

*(From the Rev. D. Strachan, Minister of St. John's  
Church, Brockville).*

St. John's Manse,

BROCKVILLE, June 6th, 1900.

REV. PROF. MOWAT, D.D.

DEAR SIR,

Though present in Queen's College in April last at the meeting in honour of your Jubilee, I did not take any active part, feeling that the time would be more fittingly occupied by the older men in the Church who were present, and more especially by your co-presbyters who had been closely associated with you for many years.

For this reason I am constrained now to write this note of congratulation, which I trust you will accept, because I have now the honour of being the Minister in a congregation with which you have been more or less associated for more than fifty years; because I had the privilege of being one of your students for four years; because of the profound respect and love that I in common with all your students have for one who always proved to be more than a mere teacher—a true friend.

I should also say that I am expressing not only my own feelings but those also of the Session and congregation of St. John's.

This congregation's loyalty to Queen's and the men of Queen's has never lessened since those early days when they gave their first Minister, Dr. P. C. Campbell to take the Chair in Classics, and after, two sons, Dr. Robert Campbell, sometime Lecturer in Political Economy, and Rev. John MacKerras, Professor in Classics. Because of these and many other ties we take particular pleasure in offering you our sincerest congratulations. Rich is that Church that has for fifty years such men, as leaders in scholarship and piety and true worth.

We may not be able to follow you in accuracy and breadth of scholarship, but I trust we may all follow your example in your high devotion to all that is worthiest and truest and best.

Our united prayer is that for many years yet you may continue to serve the Church and our common Lord and Master.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL STRACHAN.



**The following letter from another ex-student of Dr. Mowat's was received after the above papers were in print, and after Dr. Mowat's death (15th July, 1900.)**

*(From Rev. James Ross, B.D., M.A., Professor of Homiletics, Sacred Rhetoric, and Church Government in the Presbyterian College, Montreal.)*

22 Summer Hill Avenue,  
MONTREAL, July 16th, 1900.

MY DEAR MRS. MOWAT,

Allow me to express my deep sympathy with you in your sore bereavement, which I have just learned from this evening's "Daily Witness." The news of your husband's condition some days ago filled me with forebodings and in a manner prepared me for the shock of to-day. But ah! how sad in any case is the news that one loved and revered beyond common men has passed out of our sight and that all further intercourse with him is impossible here. I should have liked to have had an opportunity of expressing to himself more fully than ever I did my deep indebtedness to him for very many kindnesses and much spiritual benefit. It seems as if I have lost a father. How much we all loved him and what pleasant memories all his students have of his kindly, genial friendship, his strict impartial justice,

his reverent, unwavering confidence in God. His gentle, modest bearing, his exquisite delicacy in considering the feelings of others and his tender faithfulness in reproving wrong-doing made a deep impression on us all.

How well I remember his expositions of Scripture—so rich, so pregnant with meaning, so true to the spirit of the author, so wisely adapted to the needs of his hearers.

What patience he had as a teacher of elementary Hebrew! If any proof of his saintly character had been needed it could have been found daily in his classroom where he went over and over again with calm, unwearying persistence the minutest details of the subject till the dullest member had taken it in and could not forget it if he tried. And I do not remember to have seen any sign of temper or impatience at the most astounding displays of stupidity, rather there seemed to cross his countenance on these occasions an expression of pain, a feeling of self-reproach.

Of his kindness to myself personally, when I came to the University, a rude, awkward lad; of his generous approval of my imperfect work; and of many kind and chivalrous services ungrudgingly rendered to me in later years I cannot trust myself to speak.

It is a matter of thankfulness that he was spared to you and to his children so long and that he was able to continue to the end the work that he loved so well. May the memory of his thorough and most systematic devotion to duty inspire us all with a like spirit.

I pray that in your sorrow you and your children may be upheld and consoled by our compassionate Father, God. Remember me to your sons and daughters in the kindest sympathy.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

JAMES ROSS.

MRS. MOWAT,

Kingston.

